skills, without pay, to their communities. I rise today to salute the work of the Volunteer Council of the city of Virginia Beach, VA, which is in my congressional district. The volunteer council is the city's umbrella organization of volunteers representing more than 30 city- and State-related agencies.

America's greatest deeds come from the basic decency and compassion of her people. This decency and compassion is the bedrock upon which the volunteer workers of the city of Virginia Beach have developed innovative and effective volunteer partnerships to take on the most difficult challenges that we face as a society.

Since 1985, "more than 40,000 volunteers have contributed over 7 million hours of public service and provided over 77 million dollars, worth of services that would not otherwise have been provided." Volunteerism has been increased in Virginia Beach by more than 200 percent during that period. Through its network of volunteers, the volunteer council has been instrumental in fighting poverty, drug abuse, illiteracy, teen pregnancy, and the alienation of young and old. Volunteers of all ages have worked in the city's libraries, recreation centers, fire stations, rescue squads, patrol cars, and neighborhoods.

By serving others, the volunteers of Virginia Beach have enriched their community. The success of the volunteer council is a reflection of the personal successes of thousands of community volunteers. The volunteer council has been instrumental in promoting the basic values that form the heart of voluntarism. The council and the citizen volunteers of Virginia Beach continue to show that success in life is the sum not of our possessions but of how we help our neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I insert into the RECORD certain materials documenting the proud accomplishments of the Volunteer Council of the city of Virginia Beach.

VOLUNTEERS IN VIRGINIA BEACH CITY GOVERNMENT

In 1978, the Virginia Beach City Council established a Volunteer Council to help city agencies develop innovative and effective volunteer partnerships. Since that time, volunteers have played a vital role in the delivery of services and community development.

Since 1985, more than 40,000 volunteers have contributed over 7 million hours of public service and provided over $77 million dollars worth of services that would not otherwise have been provided. Volunteerism has been increased in local government by more than 200%.

In 1994, nearly 7,000 volunteers (the equivalent of 621 full-time employees, or 12% of the total workforce) donated more than a million hours to enhance the quality of life, address human needs, increase productivity, and improve city services. In a city of 421,000 people, such strong community spirit and kinship are remarkable.

The Volunteer Council is the city's umbrella organization of volunteers and paid staff representing more than 30 city and state-related agencies. With an annual budget of $28,000, the Council provides support in training, recruiting, public relations, recognition and the use of technology. The Council provides overall coordination and liaison with the city administration and City Council.

Volunteers of all ages can be found in over 200 volunteer opportunities in Virginia Beach city government . . . in libraries, recreation centers, fire stations, ambulances, museums, courts, municipal offices,

health clinics, shelters, patrol cars, environmental offices, and neighborhoods. Selected volunteer highlights from 1994 illustrate the depth of scope:

Some 852 EMT's and cardiac technicians, the nation's largest all-volunteer rescue squad, saves lives by responding to 26,000 emergency calls annually.

Social Service volunteers help people in crisis by providing respite care for abused and neglected children; offering day care for children from violent homes; aiding foster children; helping the homeless; teaching families to become self-sufficient; and distributing food and clothing to those in need.

Volunteers, ages 9–82, at the Marine Science Museum help educate 400,000 visitors annually about Virginia's marine environment and aid injured marine animals.

CARE volunteers help empower at-risk neighborhoods to overcome crime and social problems through leadership development.

Reside With Pride volunteers keep people aware of the need to maintain houses and neighborhoods. They help needy and/or elderly citizens with home improvements.

In an innovative twist, non-violent inmates of the Virginia Beach jail volunteer for city services to reduce their time served and help increase work skills.

Auxiliary police officers patrol neighborhoods protecting citizens from crime. Volunteer firefighters work side-by-side with the paid force to protect life and property.

Clean Community volunteers promote litter prevention, recycling, beautification and environmental awareness through projects like Earth Day, Adopt-A-Highway, Clean the Bay Day, and Backyard Stewardship plantings.

Juvenile court volunteers assist in courtrooms, help victims of spouse abuse, and educate first offenders.

City volunteers help prevent drug and alcohol abuse. They stimulate disabled infants, teach crafts to seniors, combat illiteracy, register voters, teach wheelchair sports, and help fellow citizens in a variety of programs.

As cities across the nation face the challenge of ''doing more with less'' Virginia Beach's volunteer program offers a beacon of hope. Volunteer/Staff partnerships keep vital services available for those who need them most.

At the core of volunteerism in Virginia Beach city government is a commitment to community, a willingness to serve others, and a desire to actively participate in self governance. Most of all, Virginia Beach volunteers are people helping people . . . neighbors helping neighbors . . . to build a better community.

VIRGINIA BEACH VOLUNTEER COUNCIL: 10-YEAR SUMMARY

Year	Volunteers [1]	Hours	FTE [2]	Value
1985	2,095	425,365	205	$3,223,501
1986	2,841	515,569	248	3,818,434
1987	3,151	542,757	261	4,420,009
1988	3,396	663,144	319	5,893,397
1989	3,516	723,082	348	7,478,465
1990	3,833	772,532	371	8,263,903
1991	4,933	835,352	402	9,201,753
1992	5,000	1,001,213	481	10,923,339
1993	5,500	1,066,028	513	11,335,348
1994	6,791	1,291,024	621	13,064,851

[1] Average Per Quarter.
[2] FTE=Full Time Equivalent.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. It was with great sadness that I received the news of his tragic and untimely death on Saturday.

Prime Minister Rabin had a vision of a free and democratic Israel living in peace with its neighbors when lesser men could not even imagine the existence of a Jewish State in the Middle East. Yitzhak Rabin fought heroically in the Israeli War of Independence in 1948. He continued to serve and to lead as Chief of Staff of the Israeli Defense Forces during the victorious war of 1967. And as Defense Minister, he continued to lead to contribute to Israel's security not only through preparations for war, but also through preparations for peace.

I had the privilege of seeing firsthand the fruits of his leadership in Israel. Two years ago, as a freshman Congressman, I was able to travel to Israel and meet Yitzhak Rabin and see the country. Not only was I impressed with the man, I was impressed with the Israeli people and their desire for peace and security.

The next time I saw Prime Minister Rabin as last year at the historic ceremony which took place at the White House in which he and Yasser Arafat signed a historic peace accord. Without his leadership, that ceremony would never have occurred. With his leadership, the almost inconceivable peace with former enemies of Israel came closer to fruition.

The peace process and the democratic stability of Israel must serve as a living memorial to Yitzhak Rabin. The heinous act which robbed the world of his presence occurred at the end of a peace rally where he was exhorting others to carry on and support his peace efforts. Mr. Speaker, we must continue to support those efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude my remarks by reading excerpts from Prime Minister Rabin's last public statement, read by him just minutes before he was brutally assassinated.

I was a military man for 27 years. I waged war as long as there was no chance for peace. I believe there is now a chance for peace, a great chance, and we must take advantage of it for those who are standing here, and for those who are not here—and they are many. I have always believed that the majority of the people want peace and are ready to take a chance for peace.

Violence erodes the basis of Israeli democracy. It should be condemned and wisely expunged and isolated. It is not the way of the State of Israel. There is democracy. There can be disputes but the outcome will be settled by democratic elections. Peace is not only in prayers—but it is the desire of the Jewish people. This rally must broadcast to the Israeli public, to the world Jewish public and to many in the western and outside worlds that the people of Israel want peace, support peace.

Mr. Speaker, peace is the most wonderful of goals for which a man can give his life. Yitzhak Rabin gave his life for peace and for his people. He will never be forgotten.